



# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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FEB 29 2012

Mr. Shawn M. Garvin  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III  
1650 Arch Street (3RA00)  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

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Dear Mr. Garvin:

On June 6, 2008, Maryland officially requested EPA approval of the following state implementation plan (SIP) revision:

## Washington County, MD PM<sub>2.5</sub> State Implementation Plan and Base Year Inventory

The plan revision demonstrated the improvements made to the air quality in the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, West Virginia-Maryland area ("the Area") and the efforts taken to achieve the 1997 national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 2009. This SIP revision for the Martinsburg-Hagerstown area included: (i) the attainment plan; (ii) an analysis of reasonably available control measures; (iii) an attainment demonstration; (iv) contingency plans for failure to attain the air quality standard; (v) mobile source budgets; and (vi) the base year 2002 air pollutant emissions inventory.

Air quality in the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, West Virginia-Maryland area has improved significantly since EPA's implementation of the 1997 annual National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). On November 20, 2009 (74 FR 60199), EPA determined that the area had attained the NAAQS and issued a clean data determination for the Area for the 1997 annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard. This determination suspended the requirements for the State of Maryland to submit attainment demonstrations and associated reasonably available control measures, reasonable further progress plans, contingency measures, and other planning SIPs related to attainment of the NAAQS in the Area.

The purpose of this letter is to withdraw these portions of the submittal. Specifically, the State of Maryland hereby withdraws: (i) the attainment plan; (ii) the analysis of reasonably available control measures; (iii) the attainment demonstration; (iv) the contingency plans for failure to attain the air quality standard; and (v) the mobile source budgets, all of which were submitted on June 6, 2008. To ensure that Maryland has met the requirements of Section 172(c)(3) of the Clean Air Act regarding



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inventory submittals, the State is not requesting the withdrawal of the base year 2002 air pollutant emissions inventory, which comprises Chapter 3 and Appendix A of the original June 6, 2008, SIP submission.

On a related matter, Maryland, in cooperation with the Hagerstown Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization, is developing a redesignation request and maintenance plan for the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, West Virginia-Maryland Area with respect to the 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual NAAQS. This request and plan, which will contain mobile vehicle emissions budgets developed using MOVES2010, is expected to be ready for final submittal to EPA in 2012.

If you have any questions regarding these matters or require additional information, please contact Mr. George (Tad) S. Aburn, Jr., Director of the Air and Radiation Management Administration at 410-537-3255, or by email, at [gaburn@mde.state.md.us](mailto:gaburn@mde.state.md.us).

Sincerely,



Secretary

cc: Diana Esher, Director, Air Protection Division, EPA Region III  
George (Tad) S. Aburn, Jr., Director, Air and Radiation Management Administration

